

REMARKS

The claims remaining in the present application are Claims 1-20 and 22-28. Claims 1, 3, 22 and 28 have been amended. Claim 21 has been cancelled, without prejudice. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

ALLOWED CLAIMS

Claims 11-20 are indicated by the Examiner as allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating this allowed subject matter.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 22-28 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if re-written to include all limitations from the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating this allowable subject matter.

Claim 22 has been re-written in independent form, incorporating all limitations from Claim 21, its base claim. Therefore, Applicants earnestly request allowance of Claim 22. Claims 23-27 depend from Claim 22. Therefore, Applicants earnestly request allowance of Claims 23-27.

Claim 28 has been re-written in independent form, incorporating all limitations from Claim 21, its base claim. Therefore, Applicants earnestly request allowance of Claim 28.

SPECIFICATION

The Abstract has been amended to reduce its length to 150 words or fewer. Applicants request approval of the amended Abstract.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112. Claims 1 and 3 have been amended to correct informalities. Applicants request review and allowance of Claims 1-10, as no other rejections apply to Claims 1-10.

35 U.S.C. 103

Claim 21 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103, as being unpatentable over Spears US Patent No. 5,740,525 in view of Baum US Patent No. 5,233,632. Claim 21 has been cancelled, without prejudice. Therefore, the rejection to Claim 21 is moot.

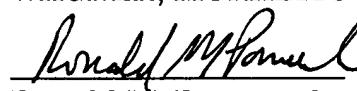
CONCLUSION

In light of the above listed amendments and remarks, Applicants request reconsideration of Claims 1-10. Applicants respectfully request allowance of Claims 1-10 and 22-28.

Should the Examiner have a question regarding the instant amendment and response, the Applicants invites the Examiner to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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